

AFCI



**University
Fellowship
Program**

AFCI Objectives

Promote academic opportunities

- **Highly motivated students**
- **Nuclear science and engineering**

Strengthen the academic and research infrastructure

- **Maintain and advance nuclear and accelerator science, engineering and technology**

Engage creative academic talent in research areas

- **Support the R&D plan of the AFCI program**

Strengthen relationships among universities and DOE laboratories

Outcomes to Date

- 10 master's degrees
- 3 fellows in (or will be shortly) a full time Ph.D. program
- 1 at GWU for MA in Science, Technology and Public Policy
- 1 national laboratory employee
- 5 working in industry (2 pursuing Ph.D.'s part time)
- 4 present fellows have specifically indicated they want to work at national laboratories
- 5 current fellows will be pursuing Ph.D.s (4 will do so immediately after acquiring MS degrees)

The Near Term Expectations

- 5 master's degrees in December
- New class of master's degree Fellows begins in August '05
- First of the Ph.D. Fellows begin in August '05
- And more!

Senate Mark

\$3,000,000 for **directed research** aimed at **enhancing university-based collaborations** focused on the Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative with **U.S. universities**. All university research shall be **closely coordinated** with the **technical projects** conducted by principal investigators within the **national laboratories**.

URA Proposed Plan

Integrate Competitive University Research into the Fellowship Program

- An objective for the program for the past three years.



Proposing Two Paths to a Fellowship

Two paths into the fellowship program

1. **Existing path** via Fellowship application

- Quality applicant, interest in topic, appropriate university program

2. **Research path** via research proposal package

- White papers proposing valuable research (useful to the program) will result in a request for a full proposal “package”
- Full proposal packages (includes fellowship applications) will be peer reviewed and selected based upon the usual criteria *and* the quality of the fellowship applications

Overview of the Proposed Process

- September – RFP process begins (preproposals followed by full proposals)
- Preproposals evaluated based upon research only
- October or November – Fellowship process begins
- Early March – Fellowship Applications due (Established review process.)
- Early April – Full proposals due. Receive immediate peer review.
 - URA compiles the results of fellowship and full proposal reviews.
- *National Technical Directors make funding recommendations.*
- Mid to late April – DOE makes final selection.
- URA integrates management of the research program into the fellowship program in a transparent manner.

Proposed Integrated Plan

- Continues participation of **top students**
- Ensures university **research** is **on target**
- Uses your **time** efficiently
- Provides a **level playing field**
- Ensures **students see the DOE connection**
- Enhances **academic support** for fellows through **integrating faculty**

Outcomes from Proposed Process

- Well integrated fellowship and research programs
- Increased number of fellows
- More universities
- Robust university research program
- Minimal demands on DOE
- Some universities will have more than one fellow in the same department

What URA Does

- Attention to details
- Professional management with a personal touch
- Special opportunities
- Evaluations and refinements

T h e . A F C I
F e l l o w s h i p
Experience

AKA: Selling the sizzle!

The . AF CI Experience Networking



Kamilah Turner, University of Michigan chats with Pete Lyons, Ph.D., Science and Technology Advisor on the staff of Senator Pete Domenici.

ÒAfter developing a contact through the program and with extensive research, I was able to develop a project that has been both challenging and interesting.Ó
- Kamilah Turner

ÒThrough the fully funded AF CI trips to Washington, D.C., and an American Nuclear Society conference, I was able to meet many key influential individuals in the nuclear research industry, in addition to meeting even more people who wanted to aid my thesis research.Ó
- Alan Bolind



Representative Judy Biggert visits with Alan Bolind, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The . AFCI Experience **Research**

ÒI found the flexibility of myAFCI research very liberating. I was able to concentrate on my area of interest while working for the AFCI project.Ó
- Leigh Outten



Leigh Outten, MIT

ÒThe trip to Washington DC and Argonne East helped introduce me to the whole AFCI program. Working at Argonne National Laboratory has given me a great opportunity to get an inside look at what goes on day to day, and what is involved in AFCI research.Ó
- Lee Van Duyn



Lee Van Duyn, Georgia Tech

ÒI have made friends through this fellowship that I hope will last the rest of my life.Ó
- Ben Milliron



Ben Milliron,
University of Ohio

ÒI enjoy the flexibility of the AFCI program. It has allowed me to focus on exactly what I wanted, and it has allowed me to study what I wanted to study.Ó
- Lee Van Duyn

The . A F C I E x p e r i e n c e National Laboratories



From left, Frank Szakaly, Texas A&M University; Will Wieselquist, North Carolina State University; Billy Rothstein, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and Lee Van Duyn, Georgia Tech, donned lab coats and safety goggles to tour a laboratory at Argonne East National Laboratory.

The . AFCI Experience And More!

recognition the AFCI fellows receive.
I have received letters of congratulations
from members of Congress and I have
received a mention in my hometown
newspaper
- Mike Gregson



Washington
DC was the highlight
of the summer. It was
really great to be able
to meet with the
DOE people and with
Senators Reid and

- Jennifer Ladd-Lively

become an even more
dedicated student
knowing I have the
support and faith of the
Department of Energy.
I highly urge any
devoted student
entering graduate
school to take the step
and apply as I did. The
financial assistance and
personal rewards are
immeasurable.Ó
-Tom McKittrick

